

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NIC-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-19

DRC-01 /122 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 889

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION BERLIN

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11070

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, CY

SUBJ: KUZNETSOV COMMENTS ON CYPRUS

1. SUMMARY. IN DISCUSSING CYPRUS SITUATION, KUZNETSOV COMPLAINED THAT SECURITY COUNCIL IS PARALYZED AND URGED THAT GOVERNMENTS NOT REMAIN INDIFFERENT. HE WARNED THAT DANGER COULD SPREAD FROM CYPRUS. HE ASSERTED THAT LIVES OF SOVIET PERSONNEL MAY BE IN DANGER. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING MY CALL ON FIRST DEPUTY FONMIN KUZNETSOV
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ON OTHER BUSINESS JULY 17, KUZNETSOV ASKED ME TO

COMMENT ON CYPRUS SITUATION. I EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN, SAID WE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH ATHENS AND ANKARA TO URGE RESTRAINT, AND REITERATED OUR SUPPORT FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF CYPRUS, AS WELL AS ITS CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS. I ASKED HIM FOR SOVIET VIEWS.

3. KUZNETSOV NOTED OFFICIAL POSITION HAD BEEN STATED JULY 16 BY TASS.

A. HE WENT ON TO EMPHASIZE THAT THIS WAS "CRUDE INTERVENTION BY GREEK MILITARY CLIQUE, VIOLATION OF SOVEREIGNTY AND OVERTHROW OF LEGALLY CONSTITUTED AUTHORITY BY FORCE FROM ABROAD."

B. HE SAID THAT CALLS FOR NON-INTERVENTION UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IN SOME CASES REPRESENTED AN ATTEMPT TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM THE REAL STATE OF AFFAIRS, AND THAT NO ONE SHOULD CLOSE HIS EYES TO FACT THAT INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS HAD ALREADY IN FACT TAKEN PLACE.

C. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE UN HAS A ROLE BUT ASSERTED THAT SECURITY COUNCIL IS PRACTICALLY PARALYZED, BECAUSE "MOST" PERMANENT MEMBERS DO NOT WANT TO TAKE ANY KIND OF ACTION.

D. KUZNETSOV NOTED THAT GREECE IS MEMBER OF NATO AND HINTED THAT NATO MIGHT SOMEHOW BE INVOLVED IN CYPRUS EVENTS.

E. PAUSING AT THIS POINT TO NOTE THAT HE WAS MERELY ENGAGING IN "FREE CONVERSATION," KUZNETSOV WENT ON TO SAY THAT MOSCOW HAS LITTLE INFORMATION ON THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS, SINCE COMMUNICATIONS WITH SOVIET EMBASSY HAVE BEEN CUT. HE ASSERTED THAT THE LIVES OF SOVIET PERSONNEL MAY BE IN DANGER. HE THOUGHT PERHAPS U.S. MIGHT BE BETTER INFORMED, SINCE WE HAVE CLOSE TIES WITH BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY.

4. I REPLIED THAT WE DO NOT HAVE CLEAR INFORMATION EITHER, CONFIDENTIAL

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BUT THAT WE DEPLORE VIOLENCE WHICH CAN UPSET THE BALANCE IN CYPRUS.

A. REFERRING TO HIS REMARK ABOUT THE SECURITY COUNCIL, I NOTED THAT NONE OF THE MEMBERS, INCLUDING PERMANENT MEMBERS, HAD BEEN PREPARED THUS FAR TO MAKE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ABOUT WHAT TO DO.

B. REGARDING DEPENDENTS, I NOTED THAT TWO U.S. DEPENDENTS HAD BEEN ACCIDENTALLY WOUNDED, AND THAT WHILE EVACUATION IS ALWAYS A POSSIBILITY WE HAD NOT YET DECIDED ON THAT COURSE.

C. I SAID THAT HINTS ABOUT POSSIBLE NATO INVOLVEMENT WERE COMPLETELY WITHOUT FOUNDATION. POTENTIAL PROBLEM BETWEEN TWO NATO COUNTRIES COULD ONLY BE CAUSE FOR CONCERN, AND SYG LUNS HAS URGED RESTRAINT ON BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY. I REJECTED ANY NOTION THAT NATO INVOLVED IN ANY WAY.

5. KUZNETSOV RETURNED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL QUESTION, SAYING SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE HAD DEMANDED END TO INTERVENTION AND INTERFERENCE IN CYPRUS. KUZNETSOV SAID ACTION BY SECURITY COUNCIL DESIRABLE, BUT HE WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC BECAUSE OF PARALYSIS OF COUNCIL. HE SAID THAT EVEN SO, GOVERNMENTS SHOULD NOT AND COULD NOT REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO FACT THAT REGIME WITH SUPPORT OF PEOPLE OF CYPRUS HAD BEEN OVERTHROWN BY FORCE. HE WARNED THAT DANGER COULD SPREAD FROM CYPRUS. THIS DEVELOPMENT IS CONTRARY TO TREND OF RELAXATION OF TENSIONS IN WORLD. WHILE SITUATION ON CYPRUS IS NOT CLEAR, IT IS CLEAR THAT GREEK MILITARY CLIQUE HAS COMMITTED AGGRESSION. THEY MUST BE STOPPED, OTHERWISE SITUATION WILL BE DIFFICULT.

6. I CONCLUDED DISCUSSION BY REITERATING OUR POSITION AND EMPHASIZING ROLE OF UN. WE BOTH AGREED THAT IT IS DESIRABLE THAT U.S. AND USSR KEEP IN TOUCH ON THIS SUBJECT.

7. COMMENT: WHILE KUZNETSOV WAS SOMEWHAT ELLIPTICAL, HE CLEARLY WANTED TO INDICATE SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE UN
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ROLE AND TO EMPHASIZE THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENTS-- PRESUMABLY THE USSR AND THE U.S., IN THE FIRST INSTANCE. HIS CONCERN ABOUT THE LIVES OF SOVIET PERSONNEL ON CYPRUS MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED TO INTIMATE THE POSSIBILITY OF UNILATERAL SOVIET ACTION, BUT OTHERWISE HE DID NOT RAISE THAT SUBJECT.

8. DEPARTMENT REPEAT ANAKARA, ATHENS AND NICOSIA IF DEEMED USEFUL.
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